THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Estimated availability of gas has been fully committed to downstream users.

(c) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance for Development of Ambedkar Villages in Karnataka

2588. SHRI RAMACHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance to various States and particularly to Karnataka for the development of Ambedkar villages;

(b) if so, the total amount sanctioned, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Financial assistance was released during 1990-91 to 3 States namely Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu for taking up special projects in connection with the Centenary Celebrations of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, based on their demands. The details are as follows:-

Name of State	*Amount sanctioned*	*Purpose for which sanctioned*
1. Kerala	Rs. 81.00 lakhs	Integrted development of rural habitats of Scheduled Castes into model settlements known as Ambedkar Gramams.
2. Tamil Nadu	Rs. 50.00 lakhs	Financial help for leather procurement centres and training centres for Adi Dravidar engaged in leather goods and manufacturing and financial help for the projects of stone crushers, pump sets, lorries, etc. for the cooperative Societies etc. for Stone crushing.
3. Karnataka	Rs. 50.00 lakhs	Rehabilitation of Devadasis, skill development for SCs and economic programmes for rural mothers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Potato Production

2589. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: